

RECKLESS RALPH'S

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation, and literature of the old-time dime and nickle novels and libraries, and popular story papers....Published by RALPH F. CUMMINGS, Pleasant St., Grafton, Mass.

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This being a reprint, the original illustration of MAY TURPIN, "The Queen of the Road" from the collection of Barry Ono, must be omitted. The illustration was the entire front cover of the original story and was published by THE NEWSAGENTS' PUBLISHING COMPANY (Limited) 147 Fleet Street-1864 .

BUFFALO BILL AND HIS PARDS OF THE WEST.

By J. Edward Leithead.

It is an interesting experiment tracing some of the old-time novels to and from their original source. I have before me, several New York Weeklies of the vintage of 1872, featuring on the first page of each, Ned Buntline's second Buffalo Bill serial, "Buffalo Bill's Best Shot; or, The Heart of Spotted Tail". This story later showed up in Log Cabin Library, possibly twice. It was reprinted, somewhat edited to fit, as No. 2 of the Buffalo Bill Stories.

Apparently we hear from it again in Buffalo Bill Stories No. 230, "Buffalo Bill's Kiowa Foe; or, Buckskin Sam's Red Hand". The story is a bit changed this time, some of it is rearranged, some of the characters and incidents are different; but essentially, it is the same. In the original Buntline serial, Buffalo Bill had as his companion on the

fighting trail, one Dave Estes. A footnote says, "In the sanctum of Mr. Street, in the New York Weekly office, hangs a ferrotype likeness of the two on one plate from life, presented by the author". So, apparently Dave Estes was no fictional character. In Buffalo Bill Stories No. 230, Major Sam S. Hall, "Buckskin Sam", celebrated frontiersman, takes the place of Estes. In the serial, Spotted Tail and his daughter, Dove Eye, are Big Horn Sioux; but they change their tribal identity to that of Pawnees in the later, reconstructed story.

The serial was reprinted as No. 2 of the 15-cent Far West Library, titled, "Buffalo Bill's Bid for Fame". Later, as one of three stories from Buffalo Bill Stories, the version called "Buffalo Bill's Kiowa Foe", much cut, and with Wild Bill taking the place of Buckskin Sam, appeared in No. 92 of Far West Library, "Buffalo Bill's Air Voyage". When you consider that "Buffalo Bill's Bid for Fame" and "Buffalo Bill's Air Voyage" were both reprinted in the series, Buffalo Bill Border Stories, and yet again in the Great Western Library, also that "Buffalo Bill's Kiowa Foe" saw light again as No. 50 of New Buffalo Bill Weekly, that story of "Buffalo Bill's Best Shot; or, The Heart of Spotted Tail" sort of hangs up a record for encores.

A story dealing in good part with Colonel Cody's Wild West Show, with Nate Salsbury as general manager, was contained in Far West Library No. 41, "When Fate Plays Pranks" (re-titled "Buffalo Bill's Buckskin Bravoos" in Buffalo Bill Border Stories and Great Western). This reads like Buntline, and I believe was originally published as No. 629 of Bead-13's Dime Library, "Buffalo Bill's Daring Role; or, Daredeath Dick, the King of the Cow-Boys", by Leon Lewis.

Seems to me that "Leon Lewis", like "Ned Buntline", was a pseudonym of our author friend, Edward Zane Carroll Judson. So far, I have been unable to discover if this story was reprinted in the Buffalo Bill Stories, but imagine it was, as most of Beadle's Dime and Half Dime "Buffalo Bill" novels were.

(To be continued.)

DIME AND NICKLE NOVELS FOR SALE.

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577-596-611-614-606-617-624-627-632..10¢ each.

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WM. M. CLAGGETT.

315 Liberty Street, Jacksonville, Florida.